

REMARKS

This application has been carefully reviewed in light of the Office Action dated July 28, 2004. Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 11, 15 to 19, 21 to 25 and 29 are pending in the application, of which Claims 1, 15 and 29 are independent.

Claims 1 to 5, 7 to 9, 11, 15 to 19, 21 to 23, 25 and 29 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) over U.S. Patent No. 5,682,487 (Thomson). Claims 10 and 24 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Thomson. Reconsideration and withdrawal of this rejection are respectfully requested.

Turning to specific claim language, amended independent Claim 1 is directed to an image processing apparatus capable of variable magnification processing of output information. The apparatus includes: holding means for holding output images in a first size and output positions thereof, and holding output images in a second size and output positions thereof, wherein each of the output images is expressed by a plurality of objects, and each of the objects is assigned rendering attributes corresponding to a size and output positions; selection means for selecting a desired image from the output images held by the holding means, and designating an output size of the selected image; generation means for generating an output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output image size between the first and second sizes held by the holding means compared to the image selected by the selection means; determination means for determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second positions held by the holding means compared to the image selected by the selection means; and rendering means for rendering the output image generated by the generation means at the rendering position determined by the determination means, wherein the rendered

output image is frame information of image information, the frame information including fitting information fitted into a frame of the frame information by a fitting means with the fitting information designated by a designation means for the fitting information.

One feature of the apparatus of Claim 1 is an output image including rendering attributes including a first and second reference sizes and a first and second reference output positions of the output image. These reference sizes are a minimum size and position and a maximum size and position of the output image. When an output size of one target image is designated, an output image corresponding to the target image having the designated output size is generated on the basis of a ratio of change in output image size between the first and second reference sizes compared to the target image size. In this way, the generated output image may be rendered at an output position determined by a ratio of change in output position between the referenced first and second positions compared to the target image position.

Accordingly, an output image size corresponding to a target image is determined (controlled) by the first and second reference sizes, and output image position of the target image is determined (controlled) by the first and second reference positions. In this way, the output image size and position are independently determined by different rendering attributes.

In contrast, Thomson discloses a method and apparatus for aiding in providing views of multiple network devices in a network management application. The method can include the resizing of a view to allow for presentation of multiple views. The method includes the steps of displaying a first image of a network device in a first size; selecting a second size, the second size being different than the first size; and displaying a second image of said network device in a second size. However, Thomson does not disclose or suggest determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of

change in output position between the first and second positions held by the holding means compared to the image selected by the selection means.

In the Office Action, it is alleged that FIGS. 5 to 7 of Thomson disclose different size windows at different locations. However, a careful review of Thomson reveals that Thomson is entirely silent on how the different sized windows are placed into those locations. As Thomson is entirely silent on how this is accomplished, it cannot be said that Thomson either discloses or suggests determining a rendering position of the output image on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between a first and second positions compared to an image selected by the selection means.

As Thomson neither discloses nor suggests determining a rendering position of the output image corresponding to the output size on the basis of a ratio of change in output position between the first and second positions held by the holding means compared to the image selected by the selection means, Applicants submit that amended Claim 1 is now in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

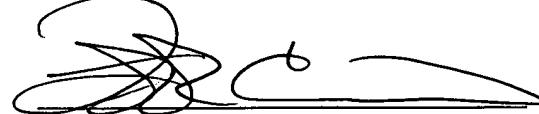
Amended independent Claims 15 and 29 are method and storage medium claims, respectively, corresponding to Claim 1. Applicants submit that the discussion from above in regard to Claim 1 applies equally to Claim 15 and 29. Therefore, Applicants submit that amended Claims 15 and 29 are also in condition for allowance and respectfully request same.

The remaining dependent claims are each dependent from the amended independent claims discussed above and are therefore believed allowable for at least the same reasons. Because each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, however, individual consideration of each dependent claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, and no other matters being raised in the Office Action, the entire application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is respectfully requested at the Examiner's earliest convenience.

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our Costa Mesa, CA office at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below-listed address.

Respectfully submitted,



Frank L. Cire
Attorney for Applicants
Registration No. 42,419

FITZPATRICK, CELLA, HARPER & SCINTO
30 Rockefeller Plaza
New York, New York 10112-2200
Facsimile: (212) 218-2200

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